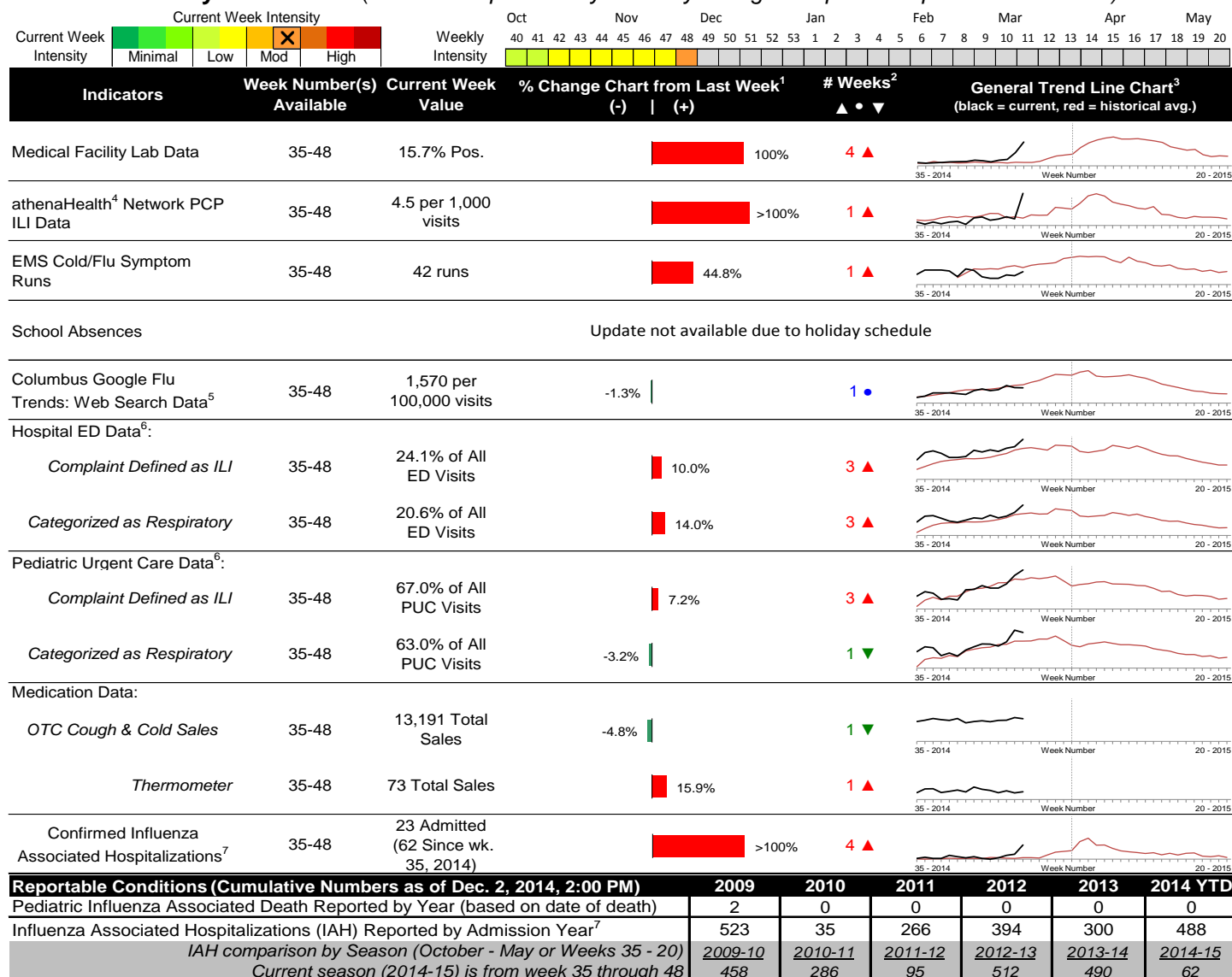


## 2014-2015 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 48, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014)

### Highlights

- In week 48 of 2014, the majority of local influenza activity indicators increased compared to last week. Substantial increases occurred in flu lab positives, primary care physician ILI visits, confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations, as well as notable increases in hospital ED visits for influenza-like-illness and respiratory symptoms.
- Geographic activity and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, MODERATE
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,062 tests run with 167 (15.7%) positive results for week 48 of 2014.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms increased compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms are higher than their baseline averages.
- The majority of local over-the-counter medication sale trends increased (increase in electrolyte, thermometer, chest rub, adult anti-fever, pediatric anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; slight decrease in cough and cold throat sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity increased in week 48. Please [visit the CDC website for specific information](#) (National data is usually updated on Friday of each week).

### Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)



<sup>1</sup>Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.

<sup>2</sup>Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "•" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

<sup>3</sup>Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

<sup>4</sup>Data Source: athenaHealth, Inc. and their analytics and research team athenaResearch ([www.athenahealth.com](http://www.athenahealth.com)). Rate of ILI visits to Franklin County, OH, athenaHealth network's primary care practices/physicians using claims data.

<sup>5</sup>Data Source: Google Flu Trends ([www.google.org/flutrends](http://www.google.org/flutrends)), City = Columbus, OH. See website for additional details.

<sup>6</sup>Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode).

<sup>7</sup>Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.

## CDC 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System: Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 48 of 2014, 5.7% of all Columbus deaths were attributed to pneumonia and influenza (Figure 1). Nationally, 5.4% of deaths reported were attributed to pneumonia and influenza in week 48. This national percentage is below the national epidemic threshold of 6.5% for week 48.

## Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

In week 48, the preliminary local influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate (4.5 per 1,000 visits) to athenaHealth providers was substantially higher than the previous week and the baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 48 percentage of Emergency Department (ED) visits for ILI symptoms increased compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is substantially higher than the historic baseline for this week. Pediatric urgent care visits for ILI symptoms increased compared to the previous week and is substantially higher than its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 48 of 2014, 2.6% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is higher than the national baseline of 2.0%.

## Laboratory Surveillance

During week 48 of 2014, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,062 specimens, with 167 (15.7%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2012 through week 48 of 2014 is 7,911 with 319 (4.0%) positives (278 type A, 35 type B, 5 both A and B, 1 type unknown). Nationally in week 48 of 2014, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 13,398 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 2,274 (17.0%) of which were positive (visit the CDC website for more info). The last 3 weeks national breakdown by type and subtype from the CDC is shown in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: U.S. Virologic Surveillance (WHO and NREVSS participating labs)**

Week	A Total	A (H1)	A 2009 H1N1	A (H3)	A (H3N2v)	A (unable to sub-type)	A (Subtyping not performed)	B Total	Total # Tested	% Positive
46	1055 (89.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	472 (44.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	583 (55.3%)	127 (10.7%)	12262	9.63
47	1698 (92.4%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.1%)	644 (37.9%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1053 (62%)	140 (7.6%)	13428	13.68
48	2129 (93.6%)	0 (0%)	5 (0.2%)	656 (30.8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1468 (69%)	145 (6.4%)	13398	16.97

ODH lab reported results for Ohio cases that are PCR positive for seasonal influenza Positive results: (1) A/PdH1N1; (28) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 11/29/14).

## ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 48<sup>th</sup> week of 2014, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* increased compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is substantially higher than its historic baseline for this week (Figure 5). Pediatric urgent care visits for respiratory symptoms decreased slightly compared to the previous week and is substantially higher than its historic baseline for the week.

## Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 48 of 2014, trends for the majority of local over-the-counter medication sales increased (increase in electrolyte, thermometer, chest rub, adult anti-fever, pediatric anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; slight decrease in cough and cold throat sales) compared to last week.

## Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/seasflu/ohfluactivity.aspx>

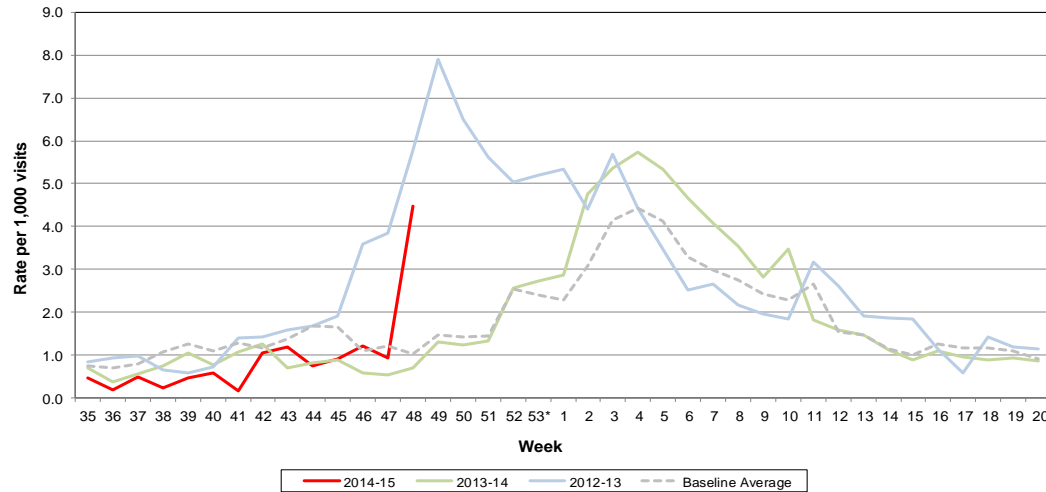
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

CDC International Flu Activity Map: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm>

World Health Organization Situation Updates: [http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/en/](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/en/)

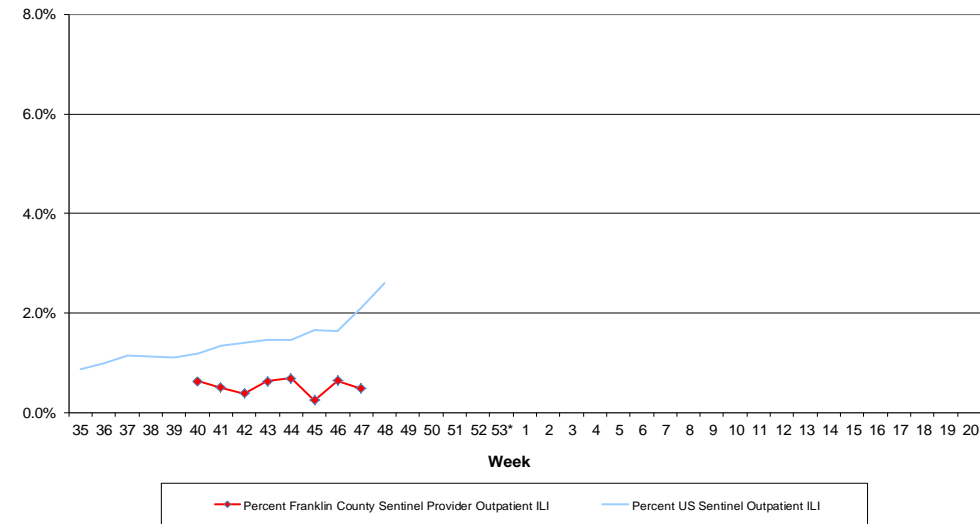
## Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 48, 2014 (11/23/2014-11/29/2014)

**Figure 1: athenahealth Network Primary Care Physician Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate†, Franklin County, OH**

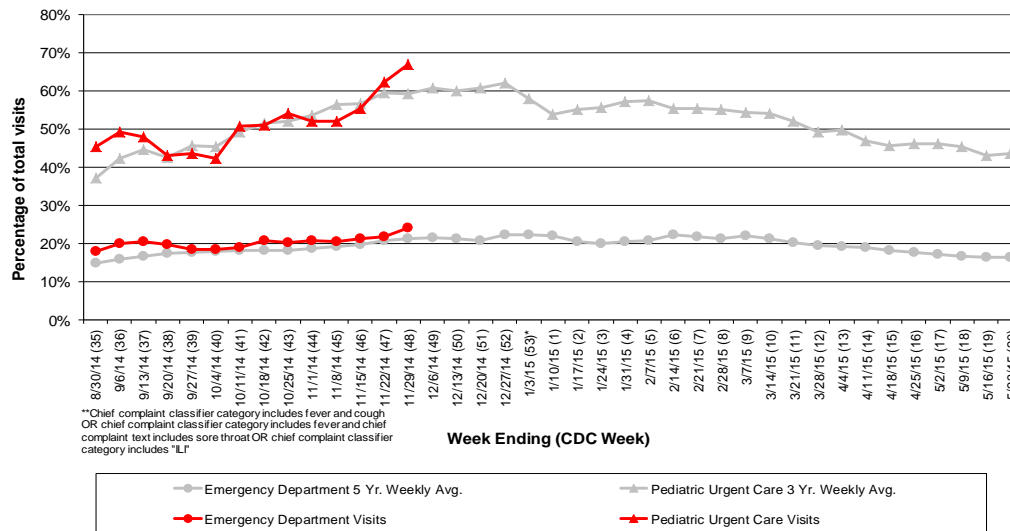


†Source: Claims data from athenahealth, Inc. and their analytics and research team, athenaResearch ([www.athenahealth.com/blog/category/analytics-research](http://www.athenahealth.com/blog/category/analytics-research))  
Note: athenaHealth claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

**Figure 2: Percentage of Local and National ILI Outpatient CDC Sentinel Health Care Provider Site visits, 2014-15**

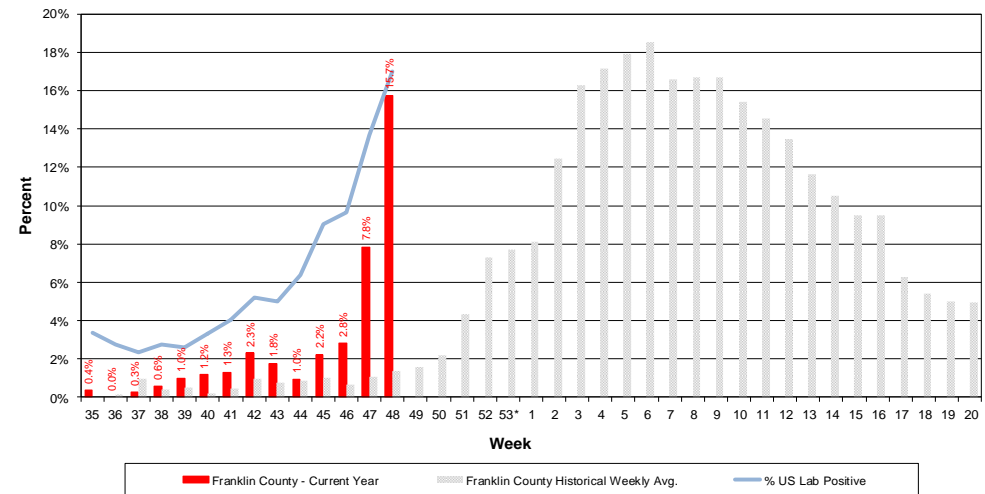


**Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined\*\* ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH**



\*\*Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough  
OR chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat OR chief complaint classifier category includes "ILI"

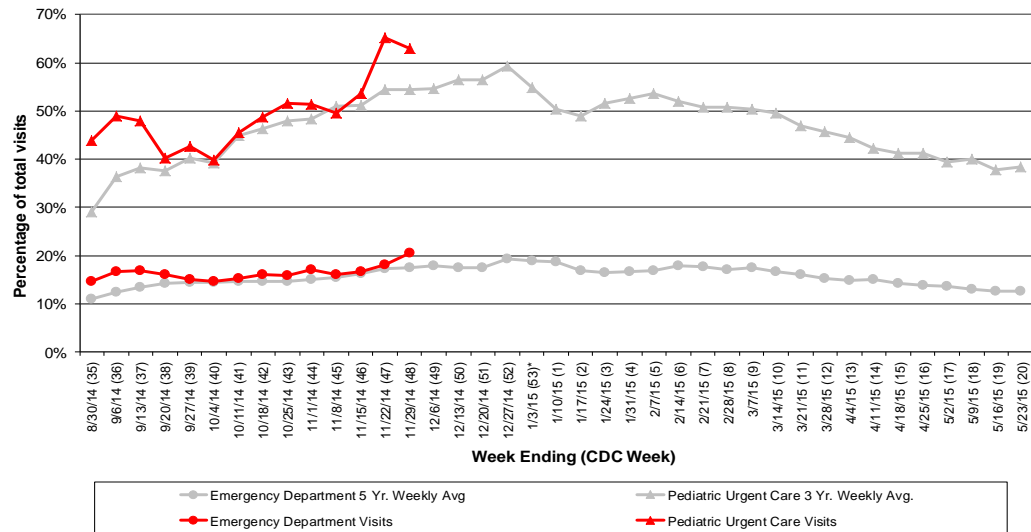
**Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2014-15**



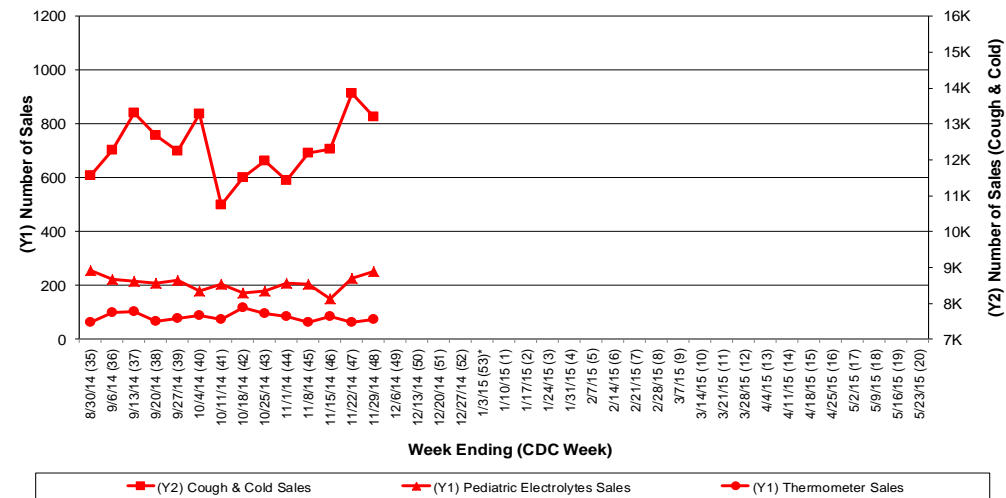
\*Note: Based on CDC MMWR Weeks, there are 53 surveillance weeks in 2014. Baseline and previous year's week 53 data are based on the average of week 52 and week 1 numbers.

# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 48, 2014 (11/23/2014-11/29/2014)

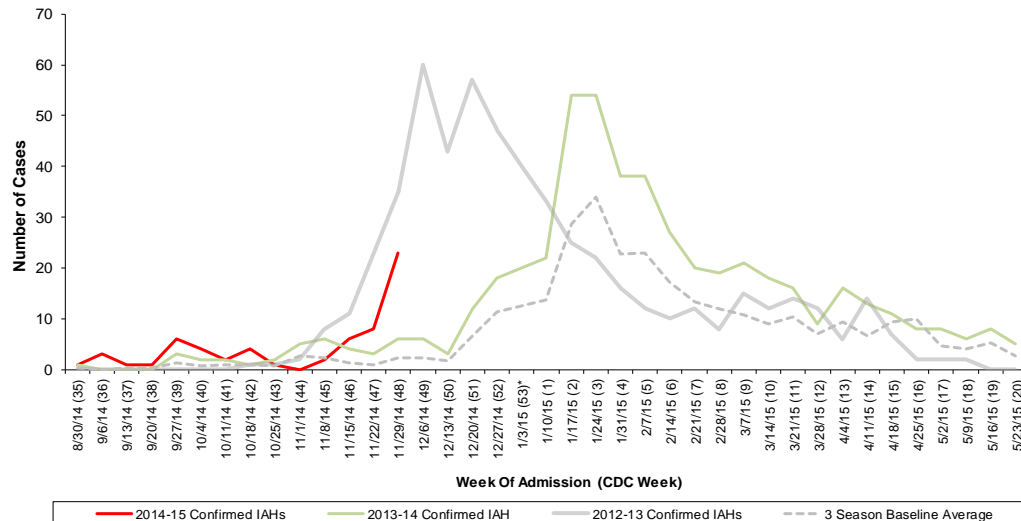
**Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH**



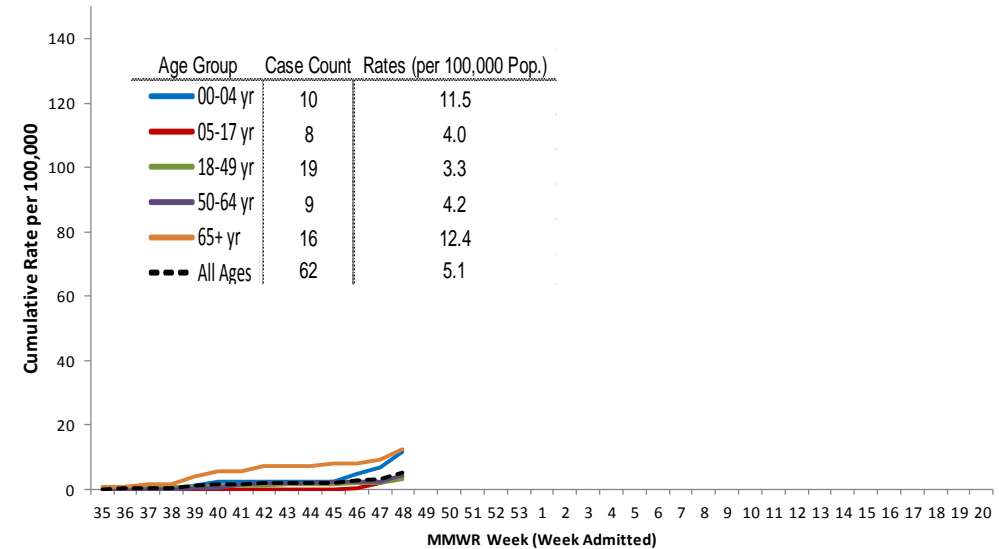
**Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2014-15, Franklin County, OH**



**Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 2:00 PM, 12/3/2014)**



**Franklin County, OH, Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2014-2015 Season**



\*Note: Based on CDC MMWR Weeks, there are 53 surveillance weeks in 2014. Baseline and previous year's week 53 data are based on the average of week 52 and week 1 numbers.